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# The Green Thumb

A Newsletter of Extension Horticultural Activities and Events  
For York County Extension Volunteers

August 2006  
Vol. 7, Issue 8  
Kris Wessler,  
Editor

## Future Calendar Events

Sept 4	Labor Day – YCE Office Closed
Sept 5, 9 AM	Master Gardener Training Orientation
Sept 6, 9-12N	Master Gardener needed in the office
Sept 7, 9-12N	Master Gardener needed in the office
Sept 7, 9 AM	Master Gardener Training – General Biology
Sept 9, 10 AM	Lawn Maintenance Clinic at Grafton True Value
Sept 11, 9-12N	Master Gardener needed in the office
Sept 12, 9:30 AM	Monthly Programming Meetings begin – St. Luke's Methodist Church
Sept 13, 9-12N	Master Gardener needed in the office
Sept 13, 6:30 PM	4-H Mums – Final Evaluation
Sept 19, 7:00 PM	ELC Meeting
Sept 20, 12-1 PM	WHRO FM 89.5 Gardening HearSay
Sept 23, 10 AM	Lawn Maintenance Clinic at Ken Matthew's Nursery

For additions/corrections to the Calendar of Events contact Becky Wells at 890-4940, or Kris Wessler at 988-0616 or e-mail [jwessler@earthlink.net](mailto:jwessler@earthlink.net) (put Green Thumb in the subject line). Ignore the computer-generated notice from Spamblocker. The deadline for *The Green Thumb* is ALWAYS the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

E-mail changes: If you have changes to any of the methods of communication to you please notify Becky at [rawells@vt.edu](mailto:rawells@vt.edu). We want to keep all communication channels open. Any changes will be posted to the weekly e-mails and will be in the Green Thumb.

E-mail Change for Brenda Bradshaw: [flowerpower9@cox.net](mailto:flowerpower9@cox.net)

### ***Master Gardener Mission Statement***

*Our mission, as trained volunteers in partnership with the York County, Virginia Cooperative Extension Agent, is to provide horticultural educational opportunities to the public through research-based horticultural programs and activities to enhance our environment, lives and community.*

[www.ext.vt.edu](http://www.ext.vt.edu)

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## Notes from Jim

Greetings! Becky Wells is getting to know Master Gardeners, local clients and other contacts. Becky is learning the program and Joel and I are training her in small doses. If you need to contact her, please call 890-4940 or use e-mail at [rawells@vt.edu](mailto:rawells@vt.edu).

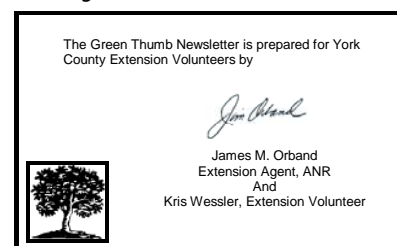
The Virginia Cooperative Extension Office of York County and the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office D.A.R.E. program are accepting applications for an exciting new D.A.R.E./4-H Leadership Camp, "D.A.R.E. to Lead"! This 3-day residential camp will take place at the Jamestown 4-H Educational Center, August 21-23, 2006. Campers must be rising 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders in York County with a demonstrated interest in developing their leadership and communication skills in a fun and exciting environment. Leadership teams will participate in outdoor adventure classes like kayaking, canoeing, and cooperative group games, as well as learning about Internet safety and basic self-defense. Campers will also participate in a Leadership Luncheon on Tuesday, with local and regional leaders present to answer questions and discuss ideas. Evening activities will include pool time and a campfire. This program is limited to 40 boys and 40 girls and the cost for the 3-day camp is \$65 per person. To request an application or if you have any questions, please contact the Virginia Cooperative Extension Office at 890-4940 or download the forms at: <http://www.yorkcounty.gov/vce/upcomingevents/upcomingeventpg.htm>.

**IMPORTANT!! MASTER GARDENERS NEEDED ON THE PHONES** – On the calendar, I have inserted dates where a MG is needed to respond to phone calls in the office. These are the days that I have planned out of the office. It is always helpful to have a staff member respond to incoming calls and help with answering calls. I do not have a MG coordinating July, August and September, so I will use this technique the next 2 months: If you can take any of the shifts, please call Becky (890-4940 or e-mail [rawells@vt.edu](mailto:rawells@vt.edu)) and indicate the date(s) that you can help.

2006 Peninsula Master Gardener Training begins on September 5<sup>th</sup> with an orientation program at Northside Christian Church. The training schedule is posted on [www.yorkcounty.gov/vce](http://www.yorkcounty.gov/vce) under Upcoming Events 2006. . . Peninsula Master Gardener Training. Master Gardeners are welcome to sit in on classes. Please notify Marshall Booker if you plan to do so. **Jim**

From Rebecca Greetings everyone! The summer heat sure has arrived and I'm wishing for cooler fall weather already. Speaking of fall I want to remind everyone to mark your calendars for the September 12th monthly meeting at St. Luke's. If you would like to be included on the agenda in September please let me know ([tombeccacho@cox.net](mailto:tombeccacho@cox.net) or 565-7050). Take care everyone and see you in September! **Rebecca**

Lawn Maintenance Clinics Two lawn maintenance clinics will be held in September, one on September 9 at Grafton True Value Hardware and the other on September 23 at Ken Matthews Nursery. They are FREE and open to the public. Please register with the Extension office. All clinics will be held on Saturdays and will begin at 10:00 A.M. at the site and will last approximately 2 hours.



Landscape Extravaganza Plans are well under way for the October 7<sup>th</sup> event which will take place this year at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church from 9:00-12:00. Pat English, this year's coordinator, will need several volunteers to serve as moderators, set-up/take-down crew, and welcome/registration. Please sign up early to support this event and help out the planning committee who would otherwise have to make many phone calls to ask for help. Contact Pat at [pjenglish@cox.net](mailto:pjenglish@cox.net).

Master Gardener College in Review A small but active group attended MG College in June. Jim Orband, Terry Hanson and Rebecca Cho explained York's organization at the leadership training on Wednesday. Thursday afternoon was filled with tours. We could choose among Granny Janny's Hostas, VT pond tree walk, Hahn Hort Gardens, Smithfield Plantation, VT Labs, an Air Spade demonstration, Tree Injection, private gardens, and community wetland and rain gardens. By evening we were glad to view the brag boards and sit down for the awards ceremony. David Taylor, Terry Hanson and Jackie Lohr received their hour awards. On Friday and Saturday we went our own way choosing classes that most interested us. Barbara Dunbar chose garden projects for youth while Diane Short headed for tree classes. Saturday's dinner was a rushed affair since we had to get back to make our bids on items in the silent auction. Terry Hanson actually bid on, won, and carried home a decorated bowling ball and two concrete stepping stones. At the VMGA (Virginia Master Gardener Association) meeting, Barbara Dunbar was awarded the brag board children's award for her display and enthusiastic explanation of York's Junior Master Gardener program. Sunday morning Robert McDuffie brought the conference to an end by showing his gorgeous pictures of the gardens of New Zealand and Japan. Before we left, we went to a plant sale, plant swap and picnic at the Hahn Gardens. Next year will be the twentieth MG College, June 21-24. Please join us and share in our fun and learning.

**Jackie Lohr**

Using the Phone Resources in the Office Are you unsure of manning the office phones? Have you been volunteering for manning the phones and wish you knew more about the office resources? Then this training is for you! Hurry and call to reserve your spot on the list! Knowing all of the resources in the Extension Office is important when you are manning the phones for Jim. I am conducting a training session on Tuesday, 8 August, from 9:30 to 11:30 AM in Jim's office at the Extension Office. The maximum attendance is 5 people. We will get an in-depth look at the office resources which will prepare you for researching an answer. We will discuss the master files, the library, the publications, the computer resources, and more. To register call 890-4940 or email [jorband@vt.edu](mailto:jorband@vt.edu). GET YOUR NAME ON THE ROSTER for this important training! You may contact me directly at 867-6761. See you soon!

**Natalie Hutchinson**

Horticultural Therapy Group - York Convalescent Center at 113 Battle Road, Yorktown. The next session will be Tuesday, August 22, at 10:15 AM. Please contact Anita Lee to volunteer, or if you have any supplies to donate: 766-1788(H), 810-8532(C), or e-mail [leeppmgt@cox.net](mailto:leeppmgt@cox.net). Volunteers are needed to pick up donated flowers from florist shops in the area and to prepare floral supplies the day before. Please bring clippers or scissors and some greenery/flowers from your garden if possible. If you are looking to purchase flowers locally, please consider using the vendors who have continually and generously supported this program: Floral Fashions in Poquoson, Yorktown Flower Shoppe, and Farm Fresh at Kiln Creek and in Grafton. Thanks to all volunteers! **Anita Lee**

Master Gardener Study Trip Aug 1-3 River Farm (free), Longwood Gardens (\$10) and Chanticleer (\$5) are on the agenda for the MG study trip right around the corner. Please contact Eleanor Hill ([captmi@cox.net](mailto:captmi@cox.net)) if you want to attend.

Full Moon Evening Walk at the Norfolk Botanical Gardens on Aug 9 from 7-8:30: \$10 (\$4 NBG mbrs). Visit <http://www.norfolkbotanicalgarden.org> or call 441-5830 for info on this and other programs.

# August 2006

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 MG Study Trip *9-12 MG needed to answer phone	2 MG Study Trip *9-12 MG needed to answer phone	3 MG Study Trip 9:30 Lrn Garden *9-12 MG needed to answer phone	4	5
6	7	8 9:30-11:30 Final Plan Mtg for Penin.MG training 9:30-11:30 Office phone use training	9 Landscape BMP Plan Mtg 3:00 PM 6:30 4-H Mums	10 9:30 LG *9-12 MG needed to answer phone	11 *9-12 MG needed to answer phone	12
13	14	15 9:30 Hort Extravaganza Mtg Extension Office <b><u>Green Thumb deadline</u></b>	16	17 9:30 LG	18	19
20	21	22 10:00 Hort Therapy YCC 9:30 Butterfly ID walk @ Norfolk Botanical Gdn \$10	23 12 Noon Gardening Hear- Say WHRO 89.5 *12-3 MG needed to answer phone	24 9:30 LG	25 *9-12 MG needed to answer phone	26
27	28	29	30	31 9:30 LG		

